MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 MARCH 1982

Israel

West Bank Disturbances -- In the wake of the Military Government's decision to disband the Al-Birah Municipal Council, Judaea and Samaria witnessed a stormy weekend with strikes and clashes that led to the death of a 17-year-old Arab youth in Al-Birah, Jerusalem radio reported. The youth was killed and two other demonstrators were injured when IDF soldiers opened fire in an attempt to disperse a stone-throwing demonstration, the radio said. At least seven other Arabs, two IDF soldiers and two tourists were injured in the course of the disturbances, while Arabs in Sinjil village accused Jewish settlers of having killed an Arab youth whose body was found there, the radio noted. According to other radio reports, traders in east Jerusalem staged a commercial strike and students in Rafah demonstrated in sympathy with the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria.

Early on 21 March, the IDF closed the Jordan River bridges to the inhabitants of Ramallah, Al-Birah and Nabulus and prevented them from entering or leaving their towns between 0800 and 1600, Jerusalem radio reported. Al-Birah, parts of Ramallah and three refugee camps have been put under curfew. According to the radio, Arab mayors have considered resigning but have hesitated because the PLO has not given them clear directives on the issue. Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah urged municipal workers in Al-Birah not to cooperate with the Israeli committee that replaced the dismissed municipal council. Meanwhile, the High Court of Justice issued an interim order preventing Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon from expelling the dismissed mayor of Al-Birah, the radio said.

Relations with Egypt -- Cabinet ministers meeting on 21 March agreed that the IDF will not withdraw from its current positions on 26 April unless the Egyptians accept the proposals on border demarcation worked out between Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Jerusalem radio reported. According to another radio report, these proposals stipulate that the two countries agree to solve the dispute over the Elat border area in a committee, pending which the situation there will remain unchanged. The radio also noted that the Joint Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee would meet in Beersheba on 22 March to discuss the Rafah border.

According to the Jerusalem POST, Defense Minister Sharon told a 21 March rally of Herut Party officials in Haifa that Israel has now reached the limit of concessions to Egypt and that if the two sides cannot agree on the exact border demarcation before 26 April, Israel will be better off staying put in Sinai rather than risking another conflict with Egypt immediately after the withdrawal. However, the POST said, a source close to the prime minister dissociated Begin from Sharon's statement that Israel might refuse to withdraw. Reporting on Sharon's speech, Jerusalem radio quoted the defense minister as saying that if the Egyptians, together with the Americans, deviate from the Camp David accords, Israel will not be bound by the agreements and may extend Israeli law to Judaea and Samaria. The radio also reported that Begin has sent President Ronald Reagan a message detailing Israel's concern over the future of the peace agreement with Egypt.

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali expressed deep concern over the developments in the West Bank, MENA reported, and Egypt's AL-JUMHURIYAH denounced Israel's insistence on terming the West Bank "Judaea and Samaria." According to Jerusalem radio, Cairo sources accused Israel of continuing with a considered plan to destroy the trust of the inhabitants of the occupied territories and said the escalation in the West Bank will have very important implications for the autonomy negotiations and the peace process.

Arab Reaction to West Bank Disturbances

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio broadcast the text of an appeal by PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Arab leaders, calling on them to support the "popular uprising" in the occupied territories with all their means. According to Damascus television, Syria and the PLO have agreed to call an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the grave situation in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan. In a televised message, the Syrian foreign minister called on the Nonaligned Movement to support the Palestinians at the UN debate. Meanwhile, the Amman JORDAN TIMES criticized the Reagan administration's "weakness" over the Israeli decision to disband the Al-Birah council.

Egypt

Ratification of Verdicts -- President Husni Mubarak ratified without amendment the verdicts issued by the Supreme Military Court in the case of the assassination of Anwar as-Sadat, Cairo radio reported.

Al-Baz Mission -- Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, will go to Israel on 22 March on an urgent mission on Mubarak's instructions, MENA announced citing AL-JUMHURIYAH. The paper adds that Al-Baz will submit to Israel Egyptian proposals for provisional solutions to continuing differences over border demarcation.

Autonomy Talks, 'Ali Remarks -- Foreign Ministry officials in Cairo said Egypt has asked that the autonomy talks at the expert level be postponed due to Israel's demand that they be held in Jerusalem, Jerusalem radio reported. According to MENA, Israel had rejected a U.S. proposal that the talks be held in Washington. Foreign Minister 'Ali said contacts are underway with the United States and Israel concerning the date and venue of the next autonomy negotiations meeting, MENA added. After a meeting with Mubarak and other top-level officials who reviewed 'Ali's recent discussions in Israel, 'Ali said that in the next few days a date will be fixed for Sharon's visit to Cairo to continue the talks and also to discuss bilateral relations after 25 April.

Ghali Interview -- In an interview with the Bahraini AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said that Egypt's difference with the rejectionist front is one of means rather than ends. Egypt will not sign any agreement unacceptable to the Palestinians, Ghali said. He added that Egypt calls for the return of all occupied Arab territory and a Palestinian homeland but believes these goals can be achieved only through direct negotiations. Ghali said Egypt warmly welcomes restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations, but he emphasized that it will continue the autonomy negotiations and efforts to normalize and expand relations with Israel, and will not renege on its pledges to Israel.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iraq launched a successful offensive in the Ahvaz and Susangerd areas, and Iraqi air defense forces shot down an enemy fighter plane, a 19 March communique carried by INA claimed. According to a later communique carried by INA, the offensive escalated to include the Shush and Dezful areas, and Iraqi fighter planes downed two enemy warplanes in a dogfight over the Shush area while air defense forces shot down two Iranian drones. A 21 March communique broadcast by Baghdad radio claimed that 943 Iranians and 141 Iraqis were killed and 16 Iranian and 21 Iraqi tanks destroyed.

Iranian guerrillas on the Karkheh Kur front killed 250 Iraqis and captured 30, according to IRNA. The Iranian Air Force bombed Iraqi assembly points, according to communiques broadcast by Tehran radio on 19 and 20 March. The radio claimed that on 20 March Iraq used two entire divisions in its offensive on one of the southern fronts and that both divisions were completely destroyed and 150 Iraqis were captured. A Guards Corps statement broadcast by the radio claimed that 1,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded on 20 March, while a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio said that at least 400 Iraqis were killed or wounded and 20 tanks were destroyed in repelling a 20-21 March offensive on one of the southern fronts. Iraqi aircraft bombed several Arab villages in the Hamidiyeh District, killing three and wounding two, Tehran radio reported.

'Alwan Remarks, Velayati Interview -- Upon his return to Baghdad after delivering a message to Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's envoy Hamid 'Alwan said Iraq's proposal to form a factfinding committee to determine which side began the war confirms anew Iraq's desire for peace. In an interview reported by Tehran radio, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said the announcement that the United States had removed Iraq from its list of embargoes on trade and military sales and indications that the United States will openly sell military equipment to Iraq prove that the United States is Iraq's main supporter and is now trying to prevent Saddam Husayn's downfall by stopping the war in one way or another. Velayati made it clear, however, that Iran will stick to its previous conditions for ending the conflict.

Iran

In collaboration with army commanders and personnel, the Guards Corps discovered a plot to overthrow the Islamic Republic and arrested 25 leaders of a counterrevolutionary group which was planning air raids on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's residence, causing local riots, bombings and rumormongering, IRNA reported. The group sought to organize self-proclaimed nationalists, monarchists and the banned National Front, a guards announcement reported by IRNA stated. Meanwhile, Supreme Court President 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili announced that 6,886 prisoners were released during the first stage of implementing Khomeyni's amnesty order.

OPEC Affairs

OPEC's 63d extraordinary meeting adopted a total oil production ceiling of 18 million barrels per day (MBD), an OPEC press release carreid by Vienna OPECNA declared. This announcement means the end of the oil glut, OPEC conference president Mani ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah told a press conference reported by OPECNA. He added that 12 member countries had agreed on production quotas and disclosed that his own country, the United Arab Emirates, will reduce production from 1.45 MBD to 1 MBD.

Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, announced that Saudi Arabia will cut oil production by half a million barrels per day as of 1 April, Riyadh radio reported. Calling Yamani's announcement a lie, the Libyan agency JANA said Saudi Arabia is bolstering U.S. oil stockpiling and Saudi princes are selling oil privately to increase their personal incomes. Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told JANA that the Saudi family's subservience to U.S. and Israeli orders is proved by the fact that it did not propose any positive action at OPEC's Vienna meeting, Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland reported.

Libyan-Arab Relations

The Saudi Council of Senior Ulema denounced Libya's Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as "a heretic, misguided, unjust, a tyrant and a criminal", according to the council's statement on its 7 March meeting broadcast by Riyadh radio on 18 March. Denouncing the Saudi council as "quacks, atheists and receivers of bribes," Tripoli radio accused it of selling licenses to practice what is prohibited to the Saudi rulers, whose "abominations, lies and betrayal of Islam and Muslims" abound throughout history. It condemned the council's silence regarding the "disgusting crimes committed by the debauched Saudi princes" against the people of Saudi Arabia.

According to the Saudi paper AL-MADINAH of 16 March, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak revealed on 14 March that Al-Qadhdhafi had asked him to return to the Arab League on condition that Egypt sever relations with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries. The paper called Al-Qadhdhafi "an agent who failed to implement the plan of his maternal uncles in Tel Aviv."

Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani accused Libya of hostile propaganda and acts of sabotage against Sudan and announced his country's intention to urge the Arab League to take tangible steps against Libya, SUNA reported.

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200,000 MARCH TO U.S. EMBASSY, HOLD RALLY

LD202126 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the National Fatherland Front [NFA] National Committee Executive Board, more than 200,000 of the toiling people of Kabul today held a glorious and massive march to protest U.S. imperialism's shameless interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, to support the resolutions of the PDPA's national conference and to endorse the implementation of the PDPA action program.

The marchers, whose numbers reached more than 200,000, consisted of workers, peasants, traders, government employees, private businessmen, clergymen, teachers, university students, schoolchildren and members of the party and social organizations. They gathered at noon at Pashtunistan intersection and chanted patriotic slogans. The marchers then gathered in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul and a number of toilers of Kabul delivered speeches.

In addressing the marchers, the secretary of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan Central Committee and member of the NFF said: You are gathered here thanks to the determination of the country's toilers. You have positively responded to the call of the militant and revolutionary people of the homeland and are raising your noble call of protest in the vicinity of [words indistinct] leadership of thousands of conspiracies, that is to say, the world-devouring U.S. imperialism. He added: The murderous sons of the U.S. plunderer administration, consisting of gangsters, thieves and [word indistinct] bloodsuckers of Reagan, have shamelessly voiced their so-called solidarity with the criminal rebels, the counterrevolutionary (?gangs) in our country.

In explicitly ridiculing this cowboy design of the shortsighted executive, the speaker drew attention to the condition of the people of the United States. He added: The people of revolutionary Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA are achieving noticeable victories day-by-day in the betterment of the homeland. Our criminal enemies will never be able to tolerate this and every day they wage conspiracies and intrigues against our beloved country and our free-born people.

Maulawi Mohammad Salem, member of the NFF Executive Board and member of the High Council of Ulema and clergy of the Islamic Affairs Department, also spoke at this rally.

At the end of the rally, a resolution was issued by the participants. It was read by Mohammad Na'im Shayan, deputy head of the Kabul NFF. The resolution states in part:

As is clear, the [words indistinct] and irresponsible rulers of the White House and their Western servants have unitedly waged a new wave of [words indistinct], fabrication and agitation against our people and revolution. They shamelessly interfere in our internal affairs and have shamelessly announced a so-called solidarity day with the Afghan counterrevolution. We participants in this historic and glorious rally vigorously condemn the treacherous deeds of Reagan, his accomplices and servants, who are openly and shamelessly interfering in our internal affairs.

The rally and meeting, held under the auspices of the NFF, lasted until approximately 1530, despite the rain. They ended with an expression of hatred for international and U.S. imperialism and their allies.

USSR'S USTINOV CONCLUDES VISIT TO NEW DELHI

Defense Ministers Meeting

BK191610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] The Soviet Union has assured India of its continued cooperation in developing defense production industry. Russian Defense Minister Marshal Ustinov and his Indian counterpart, Venkataraman, today reviewed the cooperation in the field of supply of defense equipment by the Soviet Union to India.

The two ministers had two rounds of discussions during the present visit of Marshal Ustinov. Today's talks lasted 3 hours.

Ustinov Speech

BK200708 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] India and the Soviet Union feel that there is scope for further strengthening their relations, particularly in the field of defense. This view was expressed at a dinner hosted by the visiting Soviet defense minister, Marshal Ustinov, in honor of Defense Minister Venkataraman in New Delhi last night.

Marshal Ustinov made it clear that cooperation between the two countries is not directed against any country. He said India and the Soviet Union are struggling to combat the growing threat of a new war.

The Soviet minister regretted President Reagan's refusal to accept several proposals including the unilateral moratorium on deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

In his reply, Venkataraman said both India and the Soviet Union wish to promote peace and harmony in the world. He accepted Marshal Ustinov's invitation to visit the Soviet Union.

Earlier, during the two rounds of wide-ranging discussions, the Soviet defense minister expressed his country's willingness to assist India in meeting her defense requirements.

The two sides expressed regret at the deterioration in the security environment. They hoped that attempts will be made to preserve detente and world peace.

Ustinov Comments on Talks

BK200741 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Ustinov left New Delhi today after his 5-day official visit to this country. He was given a warm sendoff by Defense Minister Venkataraman and senior officials of the armed forces.

In a brief statement at the airport, Marshal Ustinov expressed his deep satisfaction at the result of his wide-ranging talks with the Indian leaders. He said the results of his talks again emphasized the similarity of the position of both the sides on key problems of the contemporary world.

The Soviet defense minister said that during his talks with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and Venkataraman he had pledged his country's full support and cooperation in all fields, particularly defense.

AFP Report

BK200715 Hong Kong AFP in English 0656 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 20 Mar (AFP) -- Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov said today he had discussed the U.S. arming of Pakistan with Indian leaders.

Replying to a reporter's question before leaving for the Soviet Union at the end of a 5-day visit, Marshal Ustinov said, however, that there had been no detailed discussions on the subject.

Asked whether the Soviet Union would meet India's defence requirements in the face of a threat from a neighbouring country, the Soviet defense minister said: "Everything will be all right."

According to the conservative daily THE STATESMAN, the Soviet Union may allow India to manufacture MiG-23 single-seat air combat fighters, as well as supplying a later version of the MiG.

India currently manufactures MiG-21 short-range fighters.

Meanwhile, an official of the Indian Defense Ministry said the Indo-Soviet discussions here were wide-ranging, although no formal agreement was signed.

Marshal Ustinov, who was flying back to Moscow after giving assurances that the Soviet Union would provide whatever equipment India needed to bolster its defense, was given a warm send-off by Indian Defence Minister R. Venkataraman and senior officials of the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence.

In a prepared statement, he said he felt "great satisfaction on the result of the meeting and the talks that took place during this visit."

"We are satisfied with the constructive exchange of opinion on the question of broadening cooperation between the Soviet Union and India on key problems of the contemporary world."

The Soviet defence minister was accompanied by his chief of the air staff and naval staff besides the deputy defence minister.

GANDHI DEPARTS ON 6-DAY VISIT TO UK 21 MAR

BK210914 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi left New Delhi a short while ago for London on a 6-day official visit to Britain. She was seen off at the airport by her Cabinet colleagues, party leaders and workers and senior officials.

During her stay in London, Mrs Gandhi will have wide-ranging discussions with British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher on international situation with particular reference to West Asia, Afghanistan and the proposed global round of negotiations.

Tomorrow the two prime ministers will attend the opening ceremony of the 8-month-long Festival of India. Exhibitions being organized during the festival portray different facets of Indian life and are built on the theme: "Continuity and Change." Mrs Gandhi will open the art exhibition of the festival in the presence of Mrs Thatcher on Tuesday. On Wednesday, she will be present when the British prime minister opens the science exhibition at the British science museum.

The prime minister said in New Delhi yesterday that India is trying to give a contemporary relevance to its historical relations with the United Kingdom. Mrs Gandhi said that an important part of this relationship is economic cooperation.

LEADERS ADDRESS IRANIAN NATION ON NEW YEAR

Khomeyni Message

LD211516 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2257 GMT 20 Mar 82

[New Year's speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni; date and place not given -- recorded, duration 11 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. God willing, this festival time and the new year will be a happy and prosperous one for all the Muslims and the noble nation of Iran and my brothers and sisters. May this festival be a happy one for all those who in this year devote all their might to the advancement of Islam. I hope that this prayer which is read out on the occasion of the new year and has been realized for our nation during the past year will continue to be fulfilled in the coming year.

All our hearts and all our sight and power are in the hand of God Almighty. He changes the world and brightens our sights.

Thank God, our nation has been enlightened to a certain extent and I hope that in the new year this enlightenment will increase as much as possible. These hearts which before the revolution cared only for worldly possessions and worldly affairs and did not care for [word indistinct] and were not enlightened have now been changed. God has given them happiness and God's blessings support them and this is a sign of the coming of the hidden imam, may our souls be sacrificed for him.

A nation which suffered during the period of monarchy, the period of suppression, the 50 black years, has now changed to a nation with a heart brighter than the sun and a sight so clear [words indistinct].

A miraculous change has taken place throughout the nation. May this new day be a happy day for all those whose power of belief has developed to the full and [words indistinct] bravely and with wise determination, a new thing which this nation has realized; the selflessness of this nation has developed fully and I hope that this year, like the previous 3 years, will be a happy and blessed one and a year in which all the government organizations will act according to the law and solve their problems one after the other relying on the power of belief and the support of the nation.

Although we have many problems, we have an amazing human power and a supporting divine power to confront them. Now that God Almighty and our nation, thank God for His support and divine power to push this revolution forward. [sentence as heard] I hope that this year we will be able to check [word indistinct] better than in previous years and follow this path for the sake of God, and try ever harder to follow the straight path. [passage indistinct]

Thank God, we have reached the point where the situation in our country and the commitment of our youths and our nation, and all the people of our country allows us to face problems without weakening. Thank God that up to now each year has been better than the year before and this will be true this year, too. I hope that for all the bad events we have suffered we will be compensated by the [words indistinct] which happened to us, to you and to all of us and that our revolution will become a universal one and that this will be a harbinger signaling the reappearance of the hidden imam.

I hope that all the faithful, all the world's Muslims, and [word indistinct] will make powerful strides on the path of Islam, that they will support Islam. I hope that the (?enemies) of Islam, those who cannot tolerate Islam, will be isolated. God bless you all.

Khamene'i Address

LD211036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2313 GMT 20 Mar 82

[New Year's speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Dear compatriots, brothers and sisters:

I would like to congratulate all of my dear compatriots on the new year, the happy new year. I hope that you who have shown admirable humanity, generosity and selflessness during the revolution -- and especially during the past year -- will enter a new phase of progress, success and happiness in this new year.

The past year was a year of great successes. Despite sorrows and worries, your resistance, selflessness and generosity helped you to make the past year a year of great advancements and victories, victories on the war fronts, victories on the political and economic scenes. We made progress in culture and the arts, and in all other aspects of life. You succeeded in advancing the revolution because of your strong will and determination.

Last year was a year of awareness, your awareness and your precise understanding of the most delicate and the most sensitive issues of our revolution saved our revolution from the threat of weakening, halting and being destroyed.

The past year was also the year of your presence on the scene; your active, extensive presence and your resistance enabled you to foil all conspiracies and to throw the enemy out and prove his predictions to be false.

The past year was a year of generosity, forgiveness and self-sacrifice. You provided Islam, the revolution and the noble aims of this revolution with the services of so many pure, bright and worthy men. How generously you parted with your dear relatives, who were the most noble people in history.

The past year was also a year of extensive construction, activity and creativity. Supported by your creativity, blooms of self-sufficiency and independence blossomed in our society and boosted our hopes for an independent future for this revolution and this nation. Finally, the past year was a manifestation of the more beautiful side of humanity. Thousands of generous mothers and fathers -- altogether millions of people -- were prepared to give all of their wealth for God to ensure the prosperity and happiness of this nation.

We begin a new year today. The dawn of this new day is the dawn of our future victories and prosperity. Relying on your resistance, selflessness and generosity, we think that our future is hopeful. I have no doubt that during the next year you will be able to witness the results of your past sacrifices and that these results will certainly affect our future.

I hope that everyone in our nation -- men, women, youths, children -- by trying and working hard within this great nation, will succeed in putting their strength at the service of this revolution and of Islam.

I sincerely beseech Almighty God for a happy new year, happy days, warm hearts and smiling faces for all of you. I hope that we will all be able to live under the shelter of the imam's shadow during this year, too. I hope that we will be able to be inspired by divine blessing and God's spiritual support and helped by the guidance of our great imam in following our path. Just as we have succeeded in passing through the most difficult and dangerous passes to date, I hope that we will be able to eliminate all obstacles blocking our path in the future.

God be with you all.

Musavi Speech

LD212346 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2213 GMT 20 Mar 82

[New Year's speech by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I congratulate the imam of the nation and leader of the world oppressed, and the combatants who are at this minute safeguarding the independence of our country on the borders of our Islamic homeland with their pure blood, and you honorable nation and the self-sacrificiers of the revolution, on the new year and the fourth spring of freedom. The year we have left behind was a year of great events, a year of God's great blessings for us; a year in which our nation gave many martyrs in order to reach the aims that God has set for it -- martyrs like Beheshti, Raja'i, Bahonar, [name indistinct], Dastgheyb and thousands of other martyrs.

Last year taught us great lessons; these experiences will definitely be useful to you, great nation and [words indistinct]. Naturally, the government will [words indistinct] will do its best to make the most of these experiences and [words indistinct]. (?The aims) that the government has chosen for next year are (?varied). The attainment of these aims will not be possible without the help of you, great nation, who have always befriended and assisted the government [words indistinct].

What the government will pursue during the next year -- if I were to summarize — is:

1. The effort to make plans for all-round economic and social development. For this reason, the government announced [words indistinct] for all organs, institutions and bodies. We are obliged to [words indistinct].

2. Effort for the country's cultural growth, be it through traditional or (?ideological) institutes.

3. To [words indistinct] our politics and foreign propaganda, so that we can combat [words indistinct] plots; to convey the message of the revolution to the world, in a suitable manner; to [words indistinct] our (?relations) with the world oppressed; and to better safeguard the Islamic revolution.

4. [Words indistinct] throughout the country, within the framework of the Constitution; (?in my opinion), this is the best time for this.

5. [Words indistinct] we shall try, for this purpose, to present bills to the Majlis [words indistinct].

6. To assist the all-round growth of [word indistinct]. In this connection, we have prepared the grounds, some work has been done by the government, so that naturally, during the next months this matter will (?continue) as extensively as possible.

7. Effort to increase productivity in the agricultural and industrial sectors; again, efforts have been made in this matter and, naturally, after all the political [words indistinct], this issue (?could be accomplished).

8. Efforts in the heavy and infrastructure industries; the government attaches a great deal of importance to this issue [words indistinct] effective steps have been taken toward this aim during the past few months. Here I could name the starting-up of (?parts of) the Sarcheshmeh copper complex, the Esfahan steel plant and, recently, the Chuka paper plant in the north, which is of course in the initial stages of operation. This matter will be pursued with the utmost speed.

I would like to bring the glad tidings, in these early hours of the new year, that -- God willing -- with the help of our own engineers and experts, without the presence of American advisers, other sections of the Sarcheshmeh copper complex will be operational this month. One is the (?refinery) section, which will open at the end of the summer.

9. One of the most important tasks of the government, in my opinion, is to specify the organizational administrative system of the Islamic Republic. The Majlis has stressed that the government should prepare bills on the subject; some work has been done by the government in this field. Naturally, the realization of this matter would be extremely helpful to the efficiency of the people and various institutes in our country; it is aimed at creating security, in its broad sense, which is the relentless and uncompromising fight against counterrevolution and internal and external plots.

Of course, I have not mentioned the issue of the war, because it is an obvious problem for the government and the nation. So long as the war imposed by Saddam continues in our country, the issue of the war will always be at the top of the government's priorities, and the government has shown its firm resolve in the matter.

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Rafsanjani Speech

LD211338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 20 Mar 82

[New Year's speech by Majlis Speaker Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] I would like to remind the counterrevolutionaries and our enemies of something: You can see that the Islamic Republic has been stabilized. All of these disturbances that you are making will bring nothing but trouble for you and for the deprived people of this country. Everyone must return to the bosom of the nation and stop making trouble -- particularly those who have been deceived by a group of troublemakers, those who have been named as the leaders of the counterrevolution, those who are in prison and those who are outside the country. The nation is ready for your return and is ready to pardon you for your past. Your actions can only make the enemies of God happy and make the oppressed and deprived people troubled. The enemies have shown that they collaborate with the East, the West and reactionaries; the only ones they do not compromise with are the nation and the truth.

We hope that next year will be a more cooperative, more friendly, kind and constructive year for all of us.

May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Ardabili: 6,886 Amnestied

LD211230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2324 GMT 20 Mar 82

[New Year's speech by Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the new year we hope that, in accordance with Islamic and human duties and in implementing the orders of the imam of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic, we will all go ahead in implementing and obeying the law. We hope to have the courage to start from ourselves, to stand against the oppressors, to help and become friends of the oppressed, to use all our intellectual and physical might in this way, to purge and rebuild society [words indistinct] and to avoid any deviant and evil temptations, selfishness, sectarianism, using personal tastes and breaking the law; because they are non-Islamic thoughts, practices and [word indistinct].

This is all I wanted to say, humbly. In the implementation of the imam's order regarding pardon and amnesty, a total of 6,886 persons have been covered by the amnesty in the first stage; the second stage, within the deadline set by the imam, God willing, will be offered to his eminence.

KHOMEYNI, LEADERS EXCHANGE NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

LD211220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] With the advent of the new year and the beginning of the fourth glorious spring of the Islamic revolution of Iran the following people met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran this morning: the president, the speaker and the deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the president of the Supreme Court, and members of the Supreme Judicial Council, the prime minister and members of the Cabinet, members of the Council of Guardians, state prosecutor general, the Islamic revolution prosecutor general, the sharia, the Islamic revolution prosecutor of Tehran, scholars from the Qom seminary association, members of the Cultural Revolution headquarters, the managing director and the officials of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the militant clergy, the chief and the personnel of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the commanders and the heads of the political-ideological offices, representatives of the personnel of the air force, the navy, the ground forces, the police, the gendarmerie, the Islamic Revolution Guards Crops and the Central Islamic Revolution Committee and Mobilization committee, a group of officials from the revolutionary institutions, members of the committee for holding Friday prayers in Tehran and various other people.

At this meeting, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president, spoke first on behalf of all of the institutions and the state and military officials. Then the imam of the nation responded to the president's congratulations in a detailed speech. The details of this meeting will be broadcast at the end of this newscast.

Khamene'i Greets Khomeyni

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[President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i's speech at meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and others at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 21 March -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. It gives me great honor and pleasure to be granted an audience with the great imam of the nation in these first hours of the new year. All the people with all their hearts, souls and dreams are represented here in this small gathering. All the dreams which have made this great nation advance and make sacrifices are gathered in the presence of a holy man, the imam and leader of all the oppressed masses. The coming year, the year which starts today, is for the nation of Iran and for all those people attracted by these noble dreams, a year of continuous effort and sincere and warm action aimed at the supreme goals of Islam.

Our great imam, you are the teacher, the leader and the guide of this nation. I ask your permission, on behalf of this respectable audience, members of the Government of the Islamic Republic, members of the Council of Guardians, members of the Islamic Majlis, members of the Supreme Judicial Council, members of the teacher's association in Qom, a group of our guard brothers, a group of brothers in the Armed Forces, Gendarmerie and the Police of the Islamic Republic, and all the other brothers who are servants of this nation and work to fulfill the dreams of this nation, to congratulate you on the occasion of the New Year; this, in fact, is the message of all the Iranian nation. We hope to be able to live this year with happiness and prosperity. [shouts of "God willing"]

In your New Year message you said that the last few years have also been happy and prosperous years, and thus you taught us to understand events properly, to balance bitter events with pleasant ones and to consider the overall outcome as the result of the past years. We sincerely believe that the years 1979-82 were happy and prosperous. There is nothing more gratifying for us than to be able to take a step toward serving Islam, and we hope we have been able to do so. This nation has taken great steps in serving Islam. We hope that this year will end with happiness and victory on all fronts. Our greatest and most essential prayer is that God Almighty would save and protect the unequalled blessing of your presence for us, for this nation and for Islam. Our hearts cry out, and we think it best to act according to our hearts' dictate in disregarding the usual mannerisms and codes of conduct and to shout as all other people do, saying: "Please God, save Khomeyni until the coming of the hidden imam." [audience repeats the slogan]

We beg you to guide us with your wise words and provide us with provisions to last us through this year. Peace be upon you.

Khomeyni Speech

LD211610 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1102 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to leading officials at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 21 March -- recorded, duration 40 minutes]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like, in return, to congratulate you gentlemen who are the representatives of an oppressed and self-sacrificing nation on the new year; I would like to congratulate all the nation, the the nations of the world, the Muslims of the world and the oppressed people of the world; I hope that this year will bring us many more victories, the greatest of which are spiritual.

I would like to say a few words about our aims which have been fulfilled in recent years, and you gentlemen have talked about different aspects of them. The events of the past year were tests, tests of our pens, our souls and a test of the activities of the counter-revolution. [sentence as heard] Counterrevolution in its broadest sense, from outside, superpowers and their allies, and inside, different groups tested us and we tested those powers and internal and external propaganda campaigns. If the Islamic Republic of Iran was like any other republic or other regimes, considering all the extensive propaganda by groups inside and outside the country and internal and external conspiracies, we would have lost all hope for an Islamic republic. But these tests made it clear both to us and to those testing us, although they would not admit it, that a nation like Iran which wants to live under the banner of Islam would not be harmed by these conspiracies hatched by powers and the evil deeds of these powers and their lackeys inside and outside the country.

This is not an unfounded claim, it is a scientific fact, a tangible point. From the outset they said that the Islamic Republic would not last for more than 2-3 months. Then they forced Saddam. He thought that occupying Iran would take no more than 2-3 weeks. Then these people, who were lying in wait for the nation to do the work so that they would reap the results, they, too, believed that they could deceive the nation to follow them and bring the country to a state of dependence on America or maybe Russia. They tested us in every way -- military tests, internal conspiracies, explosion -- they tested us.

We see that today the Iranian nation is more unified and more stable than last year. We hope that with the blessings of God Almighty this uniformity will increase more than ever, and that those groups who have been deceived or were hoping to gain something will join this nation and work for their coutnry.

I would like to make a passing comparison between organizations and establishments in Iran and those which existed here in the past, in order to answer those who claim that the situation under the shah was better than what we have now, and for the benefit of those who wish that this republic did not bear the name of Islam, for the benefit of those who shed crocodile tears for Islam. I know what goes on deep in their hearts.

Among the officials of this country, our statesmen who have played a part in the formation of this government, there are different organizations and I would like to compare them.

I will start with the president. Those who say that the situation was better during the shah's reign, do they claim that Mr Khamene'i is more cruel than the shah? Do they claim that Mr Khamene'i is plundering the wealth of this nation inside the country and outside even more than was done during the shah's time? Can they compare our present president and his predecessor with any of the presidents in the world or with any of the kings who plunder the wealth of their nation? Is there any comparison? I would like to say this to those who have closed their eyes to their own internal diseases: If what I ask is true, then they should declare the facts, they should declare that he has so many villas, palaces, land and is still acquiring more.

Then we come to the Majlis, those who are in the Majlis, the speaker, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, together with others in the Majlis should be compared with former Majlis deputies, even with the best of former organizations and Majlis deputies. Compare them with any Majlis deputies during the reigns of Reza Khan or Mohammed Reza Khan. Which of the Majlis speakers was better than the present speaker, and which of the deputies were better than those now? During the constitutional revolution there were respectable deputies in the Majlis, but in the last 50 years not even one deputy could be chosen as the true representative of the nation. After the Majlis chaired by the late [name indistinct] came to the end of its term, when deputies were arrested, tortured and martyred, we did not have a Majlis truly representing the nation and freely elected by the people. If you do know of such a Majlis, you should say so; if you do not wish to be known, you can write an anonymous letter.

Now we come to the Council of Guardians. We have not had one ever since the constitutional revolution, except at the very beginning when we had some sort of a Council of Guardians. Well, how can you compare it with the previous situation when we had no Council of Guardians? This is just like saying either that we have no Council of Guardians or that if we do it consists of officials who were in power before the revolution. This cannot be said because the Council of Guardians did not then exist. It might be said that the existence of a Council of Guardians shows a shortcoming in the Majlis and a fault in the republic, and that because it did not exist during the shah's reign the situation was better; this again is a (?big lie).

Now we come to the government. I can claim that ever since the conception of the idea of a governing body in the world there has never been a government like ours. If there were individuals in the Majlis in the past who wanted to improve the works of Majlises, we have never had a government to compare with this. There were either feudal lords or monarchs, the best of whom did not mind plundering. Once, one of the later prime ministers, Dr Amini, came to me and I asked him: How is it that every time some ordinary man like the rest of the people is appointed to the government, after a while he becomes wealthy; from where does he derive his wealth? He had no answer then, maybe he is answering for it now.

Now we come to the judicial branch and the situation concerning the judiciary. Do you know of any period in our history when such a group of people have manned our Judicial Council? If you know something that we don't know, tell us and prove to us that justice was carried out better during the reigns of Mohammad Reza or Reza than now, or that judges then were better than they are now. I do not want to comment on what the judges were like then, but you know better than I what the situation was like and what types of people ruled over people's lives and property. Now that the Judicial Council has been formed, can you claim that the judicial system was better then than it is now? Despite all of the shortages we have, shortages that cannot easily be rectified, nevertheless the system of justice and the judicial branch cannot now be compared in any way with what it was under the former regime. If you claim that it is comparable, then you should inform us. Compare the chief justice we have now with one of the previous chief justices; compare prosecutor generals of the former regime with our current prosecutor general, and so on. If you say that the situation was better under Mohammad Reza, I don't know [words indistinct].

Now we come to the armed forces. The armed forces under Mohammad Reza cannot be compared with our armed forces today. They are sacrificing their lives on the fronts, shedding their blood in order to defend their country. If you know of one of the officers in the armed forces, one of the former generals, who would be willing to do the same, introduce him to us. We know that you cannot find one.

Do you consider the current police force to be worse than the former police force? Have you forgotten what the former chief of police used to do to your greatest religious personalities and how much he cared for you? Have you forgotten what they used to do to you when government officials came to Qom, the center of the Shi'a sect? Is our police force worse now than it was under Mohammad Reza?

Did we ever have such guardsmen under Mohammad Reza or at any other time in our history? If we did, then you should inform us.

The important point is that either the gentlemen are ignorant and have not been made aware of the issues, have not been taught properly -- they have only gone to a mosque and given some lectures; no one has told them about other issues -- or they are aware, but do not want to tell the truth. Do those of you who say that things were better during this era remember what it was like during Reza Shah's reign?

Think of our late Shaykh ['Abdolkarim], may God accommodate him in paradise, and his condition. During the episode of removing women's veils, the late Hajj Shaykh 'Abdolkarim, may God accommodate him in paradise, wrote a letter to Reza Shah about this. Reza Shah did not reply. His prime minister at the time said: "We presented the letter to his majesty and his majesty replied that you had better mind your own business."

If one police officer came to this religious city with its many scholars, he could do anything he wanted. He could treat each of you any way he wanted. None of you would have dared to complain. Is today's police force the same as the police force during Reza Shah's era? Is it like that of Mohammad Reza Shah's era?

Why shouldn't we appreciate God's gift? I would like to ask you gentlemen a question. Suppose that all these people have some (?faults). If, God forbid, all of them are eliminated, do you think that you will take over the role of governing Iran? Will the foreign powers come and say: "Mr so and so, now you rule?" Do you think that if this Islamic Republic is defeated, a better republic will replace it? Do you know some individuals who might take over after the Islamic Republic of Iran's authorities are removed? Do you know that there were some eyes glued to this country because of plans to bring certain people to rule here? If that had happened, things would have been much worse than they were during Mohammad Reza's era.

Do you know that if this republic, this Majlis and this president are removed, an agent will come from America to replace them. He might appear to be a very religious man, too, just as the chief of police in Qom did during the time of the late Mr Borujerdi [a former Shi'a leader]. He might behave as a holy man, but he will destroy our country and he will deliver a blow to Islam that will be so strong that Islam would not be able to raise its head again until doomsday.

Can you think what you are doing? Will it be possible to sit in your homes one night and think what harm might be inflicted on Islam by weakening this nation, this government, this Majlis and so on? I claim that since the beginning of world history there has never been a parallel to the Iranian nation, the Iranian Majlis, the Iranian Government, the Iranian president, the Iranian Judicial Council, the Iranian Council of Guardians, or to the others. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

The best era of Islam was the period of the noble prophet himself. During that era, when the prophet was in Mecca, there was no government. Did you know that when the prophet went to Medina and established his government some of the pseudoclergymen in Mecca and Medina and some of those individuals who were pretending to be followers of the prophet were harming the prophet?

Did you know, as the Koran says, that when the prophet ordered these individuals to go to war, they refused? If they ever went to war, they returned with some excuses.

Tell me where you can find examples of these guards, who cry and shed tears to be allowed to go to the front and become martyrs. Apart from a handful of people, the rest of the people from the early Islamic era cannot even be compared with our guards, our military and security forces. Where can you find another nation like ours that is able to stand on its own feet despite all of these problems, sufferings, sacrifices and deprivations and despite giving so many martyrs?

You can go through the history of Islam; read about Iraq and Kufa during the early Islamic era, and about Mecca and Medina during the early Islamic era, the glorious period in Islam. During his time, the prophet was feeling more oppressed and homesick than now. [sentence as heard] People would not obey him. Even his closest relatives did not obey him. Amir al-Mo'menin [Imam 'Ali, the first Shi'a imam], may God's peace be upon him, was more oppressed during the early Islamic era than any other ruler in history. They used to bother him so much. The same pseudoclergymen stood against him and put the Koran on top of a spear. They put several Korans on spears and threatened him that they would (?insult) the Koran if he did not obey them. He was forced to concede, and later they damned him. They forced him to repent and become an infidel.

These are some examples of the early Islamic era. Later, when the Bani 'Abbas and other dynasties took over the Islamic government, you know how things were. And then others took over the government.

Which period can you cite as an example that is as good as this era? Why don't you thank God for His gift? Why don't you thank God for creating you at a time when you have such a good nation, for being created during a time with this good Majlis, with a government like this, with a president like this and with guards like these? Why have you gentlemen closed your eyes and opened your hearts to complexes? Why are you criticizing this way?

We do not expect you to cooperate with us, but what are you going to do about your divine duties? Friends, why have you adopted this obstructionist attitude against this injured government at a time when the whole world and almost every country on earth have attacked it and have created obstructions for it? You know that your obstructions will not be very effective either. However, I regret to see the mentality of some of them. Then there are those who claim to want a genuine Islam. It seems as if they are saying: We want a genuine Islam, not the Islam which says that thieve's hands should be cut off. They do not believe in the Koran as the genuine Islam. If this government falls, then these kinds of people will come to power. If this Islamic Republic falls, then Islam will become so isolated that it will not be able to raise its head again until doomsday, when his gracious excellency the hidden imam reappears.

Perhaps what you have in mind is to bring a ruthless and blasphemous government to power, in the hope of destroying tyranny and expediting the reappearance of the hidden imam. After all, there is a way. Don't you think that such individuals exist? There are such individuals. Otherwise, there is no meaning to ruling. Perhaps there is a rule of justice; there should not be one. It must be stopped until the hidden imam reappears.

I hope that Almighty God bestows His mercy upon everyone in this nation and on those who oppose the Islamic Republic and Islam. I hope that in this new year everyone in this nation will join hands to rebuild the ruins. I hope that these youths, these children, these small children who have been misled, those who are dreaming of introducing the so-called genuine Islam and who think that this republic is stopping them, will wake up and join the nation in one voice. They have been deceived; their eyes and ears have been covered to stop them from understanding the issues. That is why they do things which they are not supposed to do. I hope they will join the nation.

I hope that those in charge of the government will join hands and be friends with one another. I hope that all of the Majlis deputies will be friends with one another. All of you have one goal. All of you want Islam to be realized. Why should we be annoyed with one another then? The noble Koran says that you will be brothers in this world and you will remain brothers in paradise. You should sit next to one another there. I hope that this will be realized here, so that it will continue in paradise.

You know that everything here will be transferred there. We will suffer from our own deeds in the next world. We will not carry any other burden from elsewhere. It is up to us to make our own foundation for the next world. You will receive your deeds [words indistinct] everyone will be rewarded, even for the smallest good deed. All of our deeds, behavior and ideas will be reflected there.

I hope that you will strengthen brotherhood here so that it will be reflected there; I hope that you will become brothers. Hostility belongs to those who go to hell, to those who will go to the fire of hell. One of the things that the people of hell have to suffer is the hostility among them. They continue fighting with one another. They aggressively jump at each other like dogs, while those who go to paradise enjoy kindness, brotherhood and friendship. This must be prepared on earth.

Why should we be against our brothers in faith? Why should we oppose all of our pious and good brothers who want to serve? Let us suppose that one person's vote is against someone else's on a certain issue. (?This should not create discord). I hope that brotherhood will exist in Heaven among the members of this government, the Majlis, the three branches of government and among all of the armed forces. I hope that they will sit next to one another in paradise. May God give all of us success.

I hope this year will be a year of construction and a good year. All of the years have been good and constructive years. All of the past years have been constructive and full of humanism. Personalities passed their tests and those who could not pass their tests were removed.

I hope that this year even those who are against the Islamic Republic will think a little and see that if this republic falls we will be devoured by America or by the Soviet Union. There would be no other alternative. Take pity on Islam. Take pity on the Islamic Republic. Everything it has offered has been better than the previous periods. Of course, there are many shortages. You should join hands to remove the shortages.

I beseech God to grant all of you health and prosperity. May He make this an auspicious year for all of us. May God's peace and mercy be upon you all. [songs are sung praising Khomeyni]

OPPOSITION LEADERS ADDRESS IRANIANS ON NEW YEAR

Bani-Sadr Message

GF220748 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] In his New Year message, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr asks the Iranian Armed Forces to join with opposition groups and topple the mullahs' regime. Bani-Sadr asks the armed forces members: Courageous soldiers, why do you not revolt and, with the cooperation of the resistance groups, not sever the roots of corruption?

Bani-Sadr calls Khomeyni's Islamic Republic a dictatorship of mullahs. He adds that his forecast about Iran under the rule of such a regime has become a reality. Abolhasan Bani-Sadr says in his New Year message to Iranians: You know that all that I said about unemployment, inflation, high prices and the collapse of industry and agriculture has come true.

Bani-Sadr adds that, in a country where dictatorship and a government of fear and tyranny rule, the new year does not exist.

Rajavi Message

GF220836 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] In His message issued in Paris on the occasion of the New Year, Mas'ud Rajavi, the leader of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, calls Khomeyni's regime a regime with severe crises and no future. The regime has become so weak as it has not been able to fill the gaps created by the loss of its officials.

In his message Rajavi announced that the year 1361 is the year the Iranians will witness victory over Khomeyni's regime.

Mas'ud Rajavi condemns Khomeyni for prolonging the war with Iraq with the aim of suppressing the Iranians and depriving them of their socioeconomic rights. As a result of this war, 60 to 200 Iranian soldiers are killed every day.

As the one responsible for the establishment of an interim democratic government, Mas'ud Rajavi promises the Iranians that in tomorrow's Iran there will be no room for suffocation, discord, religious hypocrisy and dirty politics like that practiced by the Tudeh Party.

Rajavi adds in his message that women, workers, farmers and minorities will no longer be under pressure. All religious minorities will have equal rights and Iran will become the symbol of peace, stability and friendship in the Middle East.

At the end of his message, Mas'ud Rajavi advises all countries of the world to stop cooperating with Khomeyni's regime and warns certain governments to stop supporting Khomeyni. He adds that the Iranian nation will never forget the support that has been extended to the most oppressive government in the history of Iran.

Bakhtiar Message

GF211853 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Former Prime Minister of Iran Dr Shapur Bakhtiar has said in his message broadcast on the National Resistance Movement radio [clandestine Radio Iran] that on the dawn of the fourth spring of the reign of the ridiculous demon it is difficult to express good wishes. Despite this, Shapur Bakhtiar considers New Year an unbreakable bond, and sending greetings in the darkness of (?despondency) is an augury of brightness.

In his New Year's message, Bakhtiar addresses the Iranian nation and renews his pledge that he will muster his ability to the maximum for the deliverance of Iran from the clutches of the infernal, brooding thinkers and will not rest until final victory is achieved. In his New Year's message, Bakhtiar says that your linked hands will land a clenched fist on the head of these plunderers. You are the defenders of the legacy of the centuries of stability and struggle. You should combine the glories of courage with wisdom and coolheadedness because the secret of Iran and Iranians' preservation lies in this fact.

At the end of his message, Shapur Bakhtiar referred to the vicissitudes of time and the storms Iran has weathered as analogous to the spring of the new year, which is born from the depths of the dark winter night, and said: Today it is our duty to keep alight the flame of hope.

Oveysi Greets Iranians

GF211812 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Gen Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, who has joined General Aryana and has set up a common military command, has conveyed his greetings in a New Year's message to Iranian officers, sergeants and soldiers and to all Iranians and has expressed the hope that the days of despondency and homelessness will end for all Iranians.

In his message, Oveysi said: The fruition of this desire can only be possible if every Iranian is ready to make sacrifices for the defense of the prestige and dignity of the nation and feels that his duty is more than complaining about his adversity and sorrow.

In his message, General Oveysi said: We should put a halt to wishful thinking as soon as possible and rise with unanimity of thought and deliver the country from the clutches of the demons and ill-wishers. At the end of his message Oveysi, in declaring his willingness and that of his associates for sacrifice, said: You are the ones who should assist us in the mission that is before us.

MONTAZERI ATTACKS 'SEDITION' FROM ABROAD

LD211728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2213 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] You deceived groups must wake up from negligence. You have been deceived in the name of support for the masses; but you yourselves know that you are dealing blows at the masses, you are dealing blows at Islam and the revolution.

Oh Muslim youths, it is a pity that you risk death because of the provocations of the satanic fugitives in Paris. You kill guard brothers, the brothers who are the forces of the revolution, the ones who propped up our revolution, the men of virtue and piety, and you rob the nation of its existence, only because the fugitives in Paris hope that one day they will rule over this nation. It is a pity.

Why do you youths force the Islamic courts to execute you by firing squad? Nobody is your enemy; but when a nation is interested in its revolution and in Islam and sees there are some people who damage its revolution and country, then it has no alternative but to execute them by firing squad. Cancer must be cut out; when cancer is spreading there is no alternative but to cut it out.

Do not do anything to force the revolution courts to issue and carry out death sentences. Otherwise you youths will lose this world and the other world only because some Mr X wishes to come and rule over Iran, a Mr X who is sitting there busy making sedition.

You were the president, you were the commander in chief, you had everything in your hand; if you had been competent you would have saved them; now that it is known that you are not competent, sit at home and do some reading. Do not send the nation to death squads so much. At least [words indistinct] for your future.

You who are active against Iran outside the country know very well that this does not work; stop sedition for the sake of your country if not for God's sake; you know that with these actions you are helping the enemy.

KHAMENE'I DELIVERS SERMONS AT TEHRAN UNIVERSITY

LD191530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] On the last Friday of the year 1360 [year ending 20 March 1982] millions of our Muslim and combative compatriots took part in political-religious Friday prayers throughout the country. As on other Fridays Tehran University, meeting place of the lovers of God and those who follow the path of God, witnessed today the solid and unified ranks of the Muslim and ever-on-the-scene people of Tehran taking part in the glorious and unifying Friday prayers which were led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran. In the glorious Friday prayers in Tehran, the Tehran Friday imam gave the prayer sermons.

In the first sermon he said: On the last Friday of the solar year and on the eve of the new year, it gives this sincere brother of yours a great deal of pleasure to meet with you, great nation, beloved participants in the prayers, and to witness your warm hearts, your open faces and your iron will. I thank God for giving me another chance after many days, weeks and months when I was immersed in the sea of your love and affection and when the flood of your kindness flowed toward me to be standing face to face with you again and to talk to you. May God bestow a goodly recompense upon you and may He shower you with His grace and love.

Thanking all the strata of the nation, the Friday imam of Tehran then said: More than 8 months have passed since our last meeting together; it is 8 months since that unforgettable Friday which was followed by many other unforgettable days in our history. On the following day I went to the brink of death, but God's grace and the prayers of you people brought me back to life. From that moment I felt that God expected me to perform a greater service and I prepared myself for it. On that day I did not imagine what that service would be. However, I was sure that I had to prepare myself to carry heavy loads for the sake of the revolution and in the service of you people.

Referring to the martyrdom of the late Beheshti and his friends and the martyrdom of the late Raja'i and Bahonar and many other great and leading figures of this nation, the Friday imam of Tehran said: What happened to us in the past year equals the experiences of other nations in a whole century. In evaluating the events of the past year the Friday imam of Tehran referred to the remarks of the imam of the nation about the year of law and said: During the past year we paid the price for the rule of law. The implementation of the laws which have emanated from the core of our revolution should be proportionately heavy for the people. [sentence as heard]

Citing some examples of the self-sacrifices of the fighters of Islam on the battlefronts, the Friday imam of Tehran said: Will the nation which has endured so many hardships for the sake of the implementation of Islamic laws allow some people to resist the laws, Islam and the Koran? The past year was a sad and bitter year for us, it was the year of self-sacrifices and martyrdoms, it was the year when we expended our most precious resources. How much hardship should a nation endure to give rise to one person like Beheshti? What resources could be more valuable than such resources? This revolution expended such resources for the sake of the revolution. The past year was also an unforgettable and successful year. As our nation sacrificed so much, it also gained a lot.

Reciting a few verses from the glorious Koran, Mr Khamene'i said: After the victory of Huddaybiyyah [one of the Mohammad's battles in which he lost a lot of his men], God graciously granted His favor to the prophet, saying: "We have granted you a clear victory." For the Muslims no victory was as great as that at Huddaybiyyah. You, the Muslim people of Iran, have successfuly survived the bitter consequences of the revolution. How many veils were removed from the faces during the year 1981-82, and how many hypocritical faces were recognized?

Your third revolution was no less important than your first and second revolutions. During the third revolution you repulsed all the trends which tried to divert the Islamic revolutin of Iran toward the left or the right and to bring back through the window the enemy which had been thrown out through the door. In the last year, the two trends of blasphemy and hypocrisy confronted the line of faith with all their might. However, the line of faith vanquished them, and today we can most emphatically declare our presence as a revolutionary and Muslim government and nation to a hostile world which cannot see the success of our revolution. From the beginning of the revolution up to the past year the enemy was trying to see if it could weaken the revolution from within. It tried to weaken the revolution through isolating revolutionary forces, to open the field to opportunist individuals and to infiltrating elements who were placed at the highest levels of the executive organs of this country. Nevertheless, 1 year of resistance by you people obliterated all those satanic lines.

Today the world is forced to give credit to the Iranian nation. We feel very clearly that the nation has become more experienced and more hardened. Which nation can lose its political and military personalities at the highest levels and not only not be weakened but, on the contrary, become more powerful? The record of this last year is bloody, full of hardship and pain, but it also has a good ending; it is hopeful and encouraging. We wish to continue with strength and speed last year's progress into the coming year. We are prepared to offer more sacrifices in the path of God.

Continuing his first prayer sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i called upon the people to turn to God and to remember God.

He asked the young people to strengthen their bonds with God with their pure hearts. Expressing his praise for our heroic young people, he said: The youths who go to the fronts with the thought of God and fight will never taste the bitter taste of defeat.

The Friday imam of Tehran added: Our movement is advancing with greater speed toward political, military and economic victories, although during this period our enemy did what it could do; whatever it did not do, it was not able to do.

At the end of his first sermon the president addressed those who have been deceived, saying: The path of return is still open. He asked them to return to the embrace of the nation.

In his second Friday prayers' sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i stressed the fact that the war continues to occupy a prominent position among the country's problems, saying:

[Begin recording] Our war is not merely a war against an aggressor, it is a war waged by the Islamic revolution against the hegemonists and world arrogance. It is for this very reason that this war has been prolonged to the present time by the enemy. The arrogant of the world know that if this war culminates in Iran's victory that will sound the death knell for U.S. hegemony and that of other great powers in the region. This is the reason for their adamancy.

You all know the war situation, or maybe you know the general picture. Our combatants continue to create epics and are daily becoming stronger. Our forces, enjoying supremacy over those of the enemy, are deciding the role of our future victory. Thousands of Muslim young people from all parts of this country have descended on the fronts with enthusiasm and love for self-sacrifice. Many more are willing to go, and I tell them to go ahead, particularly experienced young men who have completed their courses.

In this period we have passed through various phases. Several world figures have come and told us to make peace. We told them: Peace is good; peace is better. If it were possible, if justice were also carried out and if the blood of Muslim combatants were not shed, that would be better.

We said: If you accept a just peace we have no quibbles. They said: What is a just peace?

We reiterated the example given by the imam in his speech. We said: A thief has broken into a house; has committed a corrupt act; has killed innocent folk. We say, first of all, let the thief immediately vacate the house. Let him make up for the losses he has inflicted -- let him make up for the material losses. And as he has committed aggression and shed the blood of innocent Muslim men, let him be punished and penalized. No words exist which are more just and understandable than these! They said: Tone down your demands, forgive and be magnanimous. We said: It is not our right to be magnanimous. We cannot barter the right of a nation for mere courtesies. We will not do this.

Today, too, we proclaim to the whole world: Oh world, we desire peace. The proof of our desire for peace is the fact that we have not initiated the war. For if we were warmongers we would have begun the war. However, craving for peace does not mean that we should submit to bullying. We have not submitted to the world's most beastly bullies and most powerful roughnecks as embodied by this very United States. [chants of "God is great," "Death to the United States"]

At that time when we had little experience of which to boast, we did not submit to U.S. pressure and we achieved success. Now, we also have experience. We now know that it is possible to refuse to submit and still remain alive, stand on our feet and bring the bullying roughnecks to their knees. We now have this experience, but you tell us to submit: We will not submit. If all the world were on one side and we on the other, we would still consider submitting to oppression and aggression as an unforgivable sin. If we, who support Islam and who claim to be the slaves or God, were to submit to aggression and bullying, that would be tantamount to giving permission for aggression and bullying, permission for aggression to take place in the world. We will not agree to such a thing.

You can see for yourselves that our fronts are daily strengthening and that domestically our nation is becoming more like tempered steel.

Yesterday, in the Islamic Consultative Assembly, I addressed the esteemed deputies and the deputies of all the entire nation, saying: Every day we have survived since the inception of the revolution we have moved farther and farther along an evolutionary course: So why should we submit?

Today I proclaim first to you, dear nation, then to the nations of the world and then to the world governments, particularly to the governments of the region: Contrary to Zionist and imperialist propaganda we have never rejected peace. We have even made a great effort so that maybe a just peace might be established. But our enemies did not agree and embarked on a psychological war against us.

Today, now that U.S. propaganda and U.S. statesmen have come to realize that the war is about to reach its conclusion to the advantage of Islam and the Muslims, they are panicking. They are now thinking that maybe something could be done in order to prevent Islam's victory. That was not possible on the battlefront, so now they should prevent Iran from achieving victory at the conference table.

If Iran were to achieve victory, just as I said, the great dyke of the world and U.S. arrogance would certainly crumble and nothing on earth could repair it. Thus, they do not wish to allow Iran to achieve victory. They wish to see military victory elude the Iranians.

A U.S. official declared that this war is no longer in the interest of the region. Yes, it is no longer to the advantage of the U.S. interests in the region. The day when they themselves initiated the war, on that day when they used all possible routes to dispatch arms, equipment, ammunition, advisers and everything possible to Iraq -- and they have dispatched and continue to dispatch these things -- on that day the war was against the interests of the region. On that day when there was a possibility that Iran would be defeated and the Islamic Republic would be wiped out and the Islamic revolution would be destroyed, on that day the war was against the interests of the region. But now that the powerful column of the Islamic Republic is about to become even more powerful with a military victory, today the war is against the interests of the region. They initiated a psychological war. They warned all world governments, nations and forums that they should bring pressure to bear in order to achieve peace.

I declare: Our enemies have not accepted a just peace and are not willing to accept it. As it is, so our dear combatants should know that fate is in their hands.

Oh dear combatants, Oh soldiers and Oh guards, Oh reminders of the wagers of holy war at the dawn of Islam, battle on! [end recording]

Continuing his second Friday prayers' sermon, Mr Khamene'i added: We made our efforts, but the enemy refused to budge and now no one in the world can accuse us any longer of warmongering. Any emissary, from whatever place, who comes to Iran and speaks with us about peace knows that right is on our side. But they say: You should renounce your right. We will not renounce our right. We said from the start that we do not wish to be the gendarme of the Persian Gulf, but we do not wish to see anyone else become the gendarme of the Persian Gulf.

Mr Khamene'i stressed: We declare to the Arab governments of our neighbors and the governments of the Middle East that they should know that no force can defeat Islam, and that they should strive to realize their Islamic stance, should place themselves on the side of Iran, which is defending right, and should also know that the United States and the hegemonists under no circumstances seek that which is right for the Islamic governments.

Continuing the second sermon, Tehran's Friday imam referred to new plots in the region, saying: The European Parliament wishes to convene its forthcoming session in the usurped territory of Palestine and we condemn this measure, but I hope that the leaders of the Islamic countries will learn a lesson from this incident and see for themselves how the world of arrogance and blasphemy is thumbing its nose at them. And if today the Arab governments at this session once again refuse to threaten to halt oil exports, to sever trade relations and to break off monetary relations, another tragedy will be created and the game will be confined not merely to the Golan Heights but will be extended to southern Lebanon. Just as we have given prominence to the problem of Israel among the problems of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we will not easily overlook this problem either and, in response to any Israeli expansionism and anyone who helps Israel, we will remain steadfast; the world knows that we have the power to remain steadfast, and we appeal to all countries which are able to cooperate with us.

In conclusion Tehran's Friday imam, addressing himself to our Muslim Arab brothers and sisters, read a sermon in Arabic.

VELAYATI INTERVIEWED ON CONDITIONS FOR PEACE

LD212226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, granted a brief exclusive interview to a Central News Unit correspondent.

Referring to the remarks made by Carter, Husni Mubarak, King Husayn and King Hassan, the U.S. servants in the region, the foreign minister said: Such words and deeds prove our earlier assumption that the war which has been imposed on us by Iraq is an American war.

The United States announced a few days ago that it had removed Iraq from its list of embargoes on trade and military sales. We have had another report in recent days, indicating that the United States was due to openly sell some military equipment to Iraq. All this proves that the main supporter and encouragement behind Iraq in this war is the United States. Since the United States has realized that the outcome of the war is endangering Saddam's position and because he is as an American puppet on the verge of collapse, they are now trying in a coordinated way to stop the war in one way or another to prevent Saddam's downfall and to save what is left of his honor.

In another part of his interview, the foreign affairs minister said: From the state of the war we declared the essential principles for peace and we still stand by those principles. As long as the aggressor is in our house, it is natural for us not to accept any negotiation. The aggressor must withdraw from our territory unconditionally and pay for the damage inflicted on us. In such a manner, our third condition will also be achieved, that is, referring the issue to an international body to identify the aggressor, whether we who are defending our borders are aggressors or the one who entered our territory and has committed awful crimes unprecedented in history is.

The minister was asked to comment on the coincidence in which, following remarks by the U.S. State Department spokesman who said the conintuation of the war was not in the interest of the United States or the region's security, an Iraqi official met with President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

The minister said: We believe that when the world gradually began to realize that Iran was not a warmonger and when the world saw how we welcomed the peace missions, plus the letter which His Excellency President Khamene'i wrote to Mr Sekou Toure, all these developments gradually helped to unmask the hypocrite Iraqi regime's role. When the Iraqis were shelling our cities and killing innocent people, Baghdad was telling the world that Iran was a warmonger and Iraq a peace lover.

Our performance has proved the contrary: Iraq is a warmonger and Iran a peace lover that acted on principles. The world realized it could depend on Iran's words and the belief that Iran is a peace lover and Iraq a warmonger is gradually gaining support. In fact, the Iraqi regime has been forced to [word indistinct] in view of Iran's policy of principles.

POSTPONEMENT OF VISITS TO WESTERN FRONTS URGED

LD201904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, in a statement released on one of the southern battlefronts, the Public Relations Office of the Revolution Guards Corps of the Seventh District has called on all brothers and sisters intending to visit western fronts for the purpose of propaganda and inspections to postpone their visits for 1 week.

2 IRAQI DIVISIONS DESTROYED IN SOUTHERN CLASH

LD201822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] IRNA reports that following the Umm al-Hasanayn campaign, the heroic forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran repulsed an enemy offensive in one of the southern regions on the last day of the year [of the Islamic calendar], inflicting heavy losses and damages upon the enemy and capturing more than 150 of its soldiers. The Iranian forces also captured a considerable amount of military equipment.

According to IRNA, a relatively large unit from the remnants of Saddam's forces attacked a region on the southern front today at approximately 0230, but it met with the strong and heroic defense of the forces of Islam. As a result, the dissipated enemy forces suffered another defeat and were forced to retreat from the battlefield in disgrace.

IRNA adds that the high-level Iraqi officers and commanders who have witnessed the death or capture of a large number of their personnel in the imposed war and who have tasted the bitter taste of repeated defeats, have completely lost their courage to participate on the frontlines. They have ordered the soldiers under their command to continue to resist and, if possible, to advance. In this offensive the Iraqi commanders threatened the forces under their command that if they retreated they would be immediately executed.

The IRNA correspondent reports that despite these threats, the aggressive forces have lost their ability to resist and to confront the self-sacrificing forces, whose devotion reminds one of the self-sacrifices of the soldiers in the early days of Islam, the disciples of the prophet of God, may God's blessings and greetings be upon him, and the devoted forces of Imam Hoseyn in the very first hours of battle.

As a result of heavy casualties and the large number of Iraqi soldiers who have been captured, Saddam and his ilk have grown worried.

In this attack, the forces of Islam, who have very high morale, killed or wounded a large number of aggressive enemy soldiers and took nearly 150 of them prisoners. According to a military source, Iraq used two entire divisions today in its unsuccessful offensive on one of the southern fronts. Both divisions were completely destroyed. In addition, Iraq lost a large number of tanks and military equipment. A large number of enemy weapons and ammunition were captured by the forces of Islam.

AREA WEST OF SHUSH, DEZFUL 'LIBERATED'

LD221002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0859 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Joint communique No 2 issued by the Islamic Republic Armed Forces and the Revolution Guards Corps -- date of issue not given]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brave and awakened people of Iran: Your combatants and brave sons, comprising the Islamic Republic Ground Forces, the Revolution Guards Corps, mobilization units of the corps, the Islamic Republic Air Force and the air corps, following and continuing the path this morning launched operations codenamed "O Zahra."

They succeeded in attacking the enemy to the west of Shush and Dezful and crushed the defensive lines of Saddam's forces. As a result, they managed to liberate a vast area of the Islamic homeland which had been under the control of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces since the beginning of the war.

In the course of these operations, the Islamic fighters captured hundreds of misguided Saddamist troops, who are now being taken behind the front. Among those taken prisoner are several senior officers, including one brigadier general and several colonels and majors.

A large amount of materiel and ammunition was also captured. Precise figures will be announced later.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 823-825

823: 19 Mar Report

LD191744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Communique 823 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The brave fighter pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning repeatedly bombed gathering points, positions and fortifications of the invading Iraqi Army. In these victorious operations, our brave pilots first bombed the (Kolaleh) region and then the area to the west of Tang-e Chazzabeh. In each air raid, considerable damages and casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi forces. The selfless pilots of the air force all returned to their bases unharmed.

During the past 24 hours, enemy positions in Marivan and Paveh came under our ground forces' heavy artillery and mortar fire and several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded while a number of their supply points were destroyed.

In Meymak and Salehabad, due to our forces' heavy-weapon fire, 18 enemy personnel were killed and a number were wounded.

On the Sumar front, our forces destroyed two tanks, and a number of supply and logistics points of the enemy.

In Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, the combatants of the ground forces opened intensive fire on enemy positions, silencing their fire and destroyed 1 truck, 1 road construction vehicle and a number of supply stores of the Iraqi forces, killing more than 20 of them and wounding a number of others.

Due to the heavy-weapon fire of the gendarmerie on one of Ilam fronts, one ammunition depot, and four heavy- and light-weapons positions of the enemy were destroyed while their respective crews were either killed or wounded.

Also, gendarmerie combatants in the Arvand Rud region succeeded in destroying a 57-mm gun, several entrenchments and observation posts and killing a number of enemy personnel.

The combatants of the navy on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts returned enemy fire and inflicted damages and casualties on their forces.

Yesterday parts of Abadan came under the artillery fire of the Saddamist mercenaries.

824: 20 Mar Report

LD201732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Communique 824 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its greetings and congratulations on the occasion of the New Year to the members of the Hezbollah, to the families of the martyrs on the battlefronts of the war between truth and falsehood, as well as to all the popular forces who assist the fighters of Islam behind the fronts. We beseech Almighty God for the victory of the fighters of Islam in the coming year. We hereby announce some of the operations during the past 24 hours:

Yesterday, in the (Forsiyyeh) region, the enemy launched an offensive but as a result of the resistance of the fighters of Islam the enemy offensive was repulsed and 3 Iraqi officers and 14 soldiers were captured by our forces and significant losses were inflicted upon the aggressive Iraqi forces.

This morning, on another front in the south of the country, the fighters of Islam with their vigilance neutralized an enemy attempt to infiltrate some of our positions. In these operations a large number of Iraqi military personnel were captured. So far 82 of them have been transferred behind the fronts; 10 enemy tanks were completely destroyed.

In the Susangerd area, exchange of fire continued and our fighting forces succeeded in repulsing an enemy guerrilla attack on one of the fronts in this region and inflicted considerable losses and damage on the enemy units.

In the Abadan region, the movement of enemy forces was halted as a result of fire by the artillery units. In the occupied part of Khorramshahr, two trenches of the aggressive Iraqi forces were set on fire.

Yesterday, the residential parts of Abadan came under the heavy-weapon fire of the forces of Saddam, as a result of which a number of residential houses were destroyed and a number of our compatriots were killed or wounded.

On the fronts in the west of the country, in the vicinity of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, the exchange of fire continued. As a result of artillery fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions, four vehicles, one ammunition depot and a number of supply depots of the aggressive enemy forces were destroyed and a number of the enemy forces were killed.

In Gilan-e Gharb, as a result of the superiority of our forces' firepower, damage was inflicted on enemy positions and fortifications and at least four enemy personnel were killed.

The brave personnel of the gendarmerie opened fire on the enemy assembly positions in (Ganjveyh) and (Bandkabud) and destroyed a quantity of enemy ammunition and one enemy observation post.

During the past 24 hours, our antiaircraft units repulsed the violations of the enemy planes on the southern and western fronts and forced them to flee.

Also, the brave and heroic pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran today bombed the assembly positions and the fortifications of the aggressive Iraqi forces in (Chunaneh) region and inflicted some losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces. All the self-sacrificing pilots of Islam returned to their bases safely.

825: 21 Mar Report

LD211720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Communique 825 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. History has always been the scene of a battle between two sides: one the righteous, which has no aim but to follow the path of perfection; and the other, the wrong side, which is in conflict with the right for its existence. The forming of ranks by the wrong against the righteous has always resulted in the victory of the righteous force and the defeat of the wrong.

Yesterday, during the last hours of the old [Iranian] year, the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam repelled an enemy offensive on one of the southern fronts with bravery. Today, in the early hours of the new year, with bravery and alertness, they glorified the divine strength and will in the triumph of right over wrong and gave a suitable response to the heartbeat of those who were awaiting the victory of Islam on the battlefronts. [sentence as heard]

According to the latest reports, following unsuccessful operations by the army of Saddam yesterday and today, so far 107 captured Iraqis have been transferred behind the war zones. At least 400 Iraqis have been killed and wounded, and 20 of their tanks have been completely destroyed.

In the Abadan sector yesterday, as a result of fire by our forces, one cannon and a number of bunkers and observation posts of the aggressors were set ablaze and destroyed. Thirteen Iraqi militarymen were killed or wounded.

In the Chazzabeh and Tarrah sector, exchange of fire continued intensively.

On the western fronts, in the Gilan-e Gharb sector, Iranian artillery fire destroyed one tank, one mortar and one 106-mm gun belonging to the enemy, and a number of their vehicles were damaged.

In the Marivan, Meymak, Salehabad, Sumar and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab sectors, artillery and mortar fire continued; with the superiority of our forces, a number of supply points, trenches, foxholes and observation posts of the enemy were destroyed; a number of the aggressors were killed or wounded.

At present, on all the southern and western fronts, our combatants are pursuing their assigned tasks successfully, while maintaining control and with complete strength.

GUARDS REPORT 1,000 IRAQIS KILLED, WOUNDED

LD201714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the eve of the new year the valiant Islamic combatants, while defending their glorious revolution, are creating impressive epochs and are about to become the harbingers of the final victory of Islam by relying on God Almighty.

Continuing their Umm al-Hasanayn operation, the mighty Islamic combatants this morning managed to inflict yet another severe blow on the misled and declining Saddamist forces on one of the battlefronts, thus proving that whenever they wish they can crush the misled enemy.

During these operations, the Islamic combatants succeeded in killing or wounding 1,000 enemy troops. In the course of these successful operations, about 150 of Saddam's misled troops were taken prisoner. To date, some 100 of them have already been transferred behind the frontlines.

In today's fighting nearly 15 enemy tanks and personnel carriers were completely destroyed and a considerable quantity of equipment and ammunition were also destroyed.

IRAQI AIRCRAFT BOMB ARAB VILLAGES 21 MAR

LD211716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] According to IRNA, on the orders of the blasphemous Saddam, aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces this morning bombed several Arab villages in the district of Hamidiyeh, Dasht-e Azadegan region. As a result of this savage act, (?three) inhabitants of these villages, a man and his 16-year-old daughter and son, were martyred. Two other people were wounded.

REVOLUTION GUARDS UNCOVER COUP PLOT, ARREST 25

LD212106 Tehran IRNA in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Tehran, 21 Mar (IRNA) -- The Islamic revolutionary guards, with the collaboration of some devout army commanders and personnel, discovered another current to overthrow the Islamic regime of Iran. In an announcement issued by the IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guards Corps] today, the counterrevolutionary group was identified as "NYMA" (the Unity Force of the Iranian Nation) and in connection with this treacherous plot 25 main leaders of the said group were arrested.

By organising self-proclaimed nationalist elements, feudatories, monarchist groups (including Pars) and the banned "National Front", these traitors aimed at fulfilling their ominous plans, which included:

-- Air raids on the imam's residence as well as on IRGC centres and other sensitive points of the country;

-- Causing local riots among the Muslim tribes in (?various parts) of the country, with the aid of treacherous and mercenary feudatories;

-- Bombings, robbery, hostage taking, all aimed at scaring the Muslim people;

-- Rumour-mongering in an attempt to demoralise the people against the aggression of foreigners and international counterrevolutionaries, and expansion of foreign connections with fugitive elements, with the end to draw the support of expansionist and colonialist countries.

The IRGC announcement further added that the group had political, military and economic branches and that some weapons and ammunitions as well as documents and sketches were also seized from this aligned counterrevolutionary group.

GUARDS CAPTURE 'MINIGROUP' PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT

LD201514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Command Council]

[Text] In His exalted name. On the eve of the fourth spring of the glorious Islamic revolution and in the course of the heroid deeds of the Islamic forces' combatants who are on their way to purge the last remnants of the aggressors of the pro-U.S. Iraqi regime from the soil of our Islamic homeland, by the grace of God whose will is to destroy the counter-revolutionary minigroups and the remnants of the ramshackle Eastern and Western superpowers, during the second phase of the "ambush operations," thanks to all-round activities by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and unstinting cooperation from our brothers of the Islamic revolution committees and the consistent presence of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, a fatal blow has been dealt to the moribund apparatus of the so-called Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq organization.

The Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq minigroup, which since the beginning of the revolution's victory adopted a warring policy course during the tragedies of Kordestan, Gonbad, Bandar-e Anzali and Khuzestan and demonstrated its anti-God and antipeople nature. By moving toward realizing the aims of the United States in its final stratagems and by announcing the plan for combat squads it played a prominent role in creating tension, assassinations, armed robberies and in discovering the identities of Hezbollahi. Finally, in the wake of the pro-U.S. hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], Peykar and Arman organizations, it has been dragged into destruction.

In this connection the command center of the reactionary Feda'i-ye Khalq minigroup has been destroyed and most of the organization's arms, supply and printing capabilities have been seized by Islamic revolution forces.

It is noteworthy that this part of "ambush operations" was carried out in two phases which will be brought to the attention of our vigilant Islamic nation as follows:

In the first phase of the operations the following took place: the destruction of some of the Central Committee and the top-ranking members of the organization, including Siamak Asadian with the organizational pseudonym of Eskandar, from the central cadre and and chief of the military wing: Mohsen Modir Shanechi, alias Mohsen, from the central cadre and responsible for the committee of provincial cities; and Mansur Eskandari, alias Mehran, one of the important members and responsible for the Tehran committee.

In the second phase of the operations, more than 40 cadres, members and organizational liaison officers were captured by the Islamic revolution forces, including:

1. The person responsible for the security committee and member of central cadre with the organizational pseudonym Kazem;

2. The chief of supplies and finance and member of the central cadre and new responsible chief of the military wing with the pseudonym Hadiz;

3. The person in charge of labor affairs and distribution and new responsible chief of the Tehran committee and member of the central cadre with the organizational pseudonym Nezam;

4. Ahmad 'Ata'ollahi, with the organizational pseudonym Ahmad, adviser to the Central Committee and responsible for printing and forging and one of the important members;

5. Fa'far Panjehshahi, with the organizational pseudonym Khashayar, one of the important members and member of the security committee and the organization's printing specialist;

6. Hamid Azadi, with the organizational pseudonym Hamid, responsible for distribution and new official responsible for the provincial cities and an important member;

7. Davud Mada'en, with the organizational pseudonym Davud, an important member and member of the military committee and responsible for the electronic section;

8. Shamseddin Khurusi, with the organizational pseudonym 'Abbas, the minigroup's official in charge of forging;

9. Marian Ahmadian, with the organizational pseudonym Mariam, a forging and printing expert;

10. Three members of the printing committee with the organizational pseudonyms Javad, 'Abbas and Amir.

During this phase of the operations eight members of the said minigroup opened fire and were killed while being arrested.

Following these operations, more than 25 team corruption dens and organizational safe houses were occupied by the Islamic revolution forces. In this connection vast quantities of arms kept in large stores, including 1 57-mm rifle, 5 G-3 heavy machine-guns, 58 G-3 rifles, 11 Colts, 4 Uzis, 1 grenade-launcher and various types of ammunition.

The organization's entire printing facilities, including the central printing house, 9 offset printing machines, 4 sets of machines for producing zinc films, several photo-stencil, polycopying, photocopying and typesetting sets together with large quantities of paper, all the organization's forging facilities together with instruments, appreciable numbers of certificates, identity careds, birth certificates, false numberplates and more than 50 radio communication sets were seized.

During these operations, six of the organization's undercover centers for organizational work, including communications, distribution and storage, under the guise of manufacturing refrigerators, chicken farms, plastic manufacturing and stationery, were uncovered and in this connection large quantities of the hypocritical Central Committee documents, documents of organizational congresses and the organization's internal publications, demonstrating the depth of the poverty and the internal contradictions of the minority counterrevolutionary minigroup, were seized by the Islamic revolution forces, details of which will be brought to the attention of the Islamic nation and the Hezbollahi.

For the umpteenth time, the duped elements of the rejected and counterrevolutionary minigroups are hereby informed that, before they are beset with the sinister fate of their antipeople leaders, they should return to the bosom of the combatant nation which is ever present on the arena and under the protection of the selflessness of this Islamic nation they should follow the path of righteousness.